**Migration Package for Private Telecom Operators**

1253. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet Secretary while justifying the migration package for private telecom operators from license fee to the revenue sharing regime had claimed that Rs. 10,000 crores of the financial institutional investment is locked up in potentially sick projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether these advances were not secured and whether these investments were not employed in recoverable infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Sir., Cabinet Secretary has not issued any such statement.

**Anomaly in the Appointment of Delivery Agent-cum-Mail Carrier**

†1254. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the essential qualifications for the appointment of additional departmental delivery agent-cum-mail carrier in branch post-office under the Department of Posts;

(b) whether any priority is given to the SCs/STs and other backward classes in the appointment;

(c) whether priority is given to the local candidate;

(d) whether a candidate from far-flung area was appointed by neglecting a local candidate in Bhram post-office in Madhubani district in Bihar whereas competent candidates were locally available; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the appointment and the distance between the permanent residence of the appointed candidate and the post-office?

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†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) There is no post of additional delivery agent-cum-mail carrier in Branch Post Offices. The correct nomenclature is Extra Departmental Delivery Agent-cum-Extra Departmental Mail Carrier (EDDA-cum-EDMC). The essential qualifications for appointment of EDDA-cum-EDMC are VIII Standard pass and sufficient working knowledge of the regional language and simple arithmetic. However, preference is given to matriculates. The candidate should also have adequate means of independent livelihood and should not be below 18 years or more than 65 years of age. The selection is based on the marks secured in the relevant examination subjects to eligibility of the candidate in all other respects.

(b) Preference is given as per departmental guidelines based on scales of reservation fixed by the Government in respect of Group 'C' and 'D' employees.

(c) The requirement of residence in post village or within the delivery jurisdiction of the Branch Post Office is not insisted upon as a pre-condition for applying for the post. Selection for appointment is made on merit as per marks in the relevant examination and other conditions for eligibility. Once selected, the candidate must, before appointment as EDDA-cum-EDMC, take up residence in the delivery jurisdiction of the Branch Post Office.

(d) and (e) There is no Bhram Post-office in Madhubani district. The appointment of Shri Pradeep Kumar Gupta, resident of village and Post Office Mowahi via Nirmali, District Supaul, who had the highest marks in matriculation examination, as EDDA in Kothia Bhram Branch Post Office in account with Jhanjharpur Sub Post Office, Madhubani District has been made as per existing rules of the Department. The distance between the Branch Post Office and the present address in the delivery jurisdiction of the B.O. where the appointed candidate has taken up residence is less than 1/4 Km. whereas the distance from his permanent address is about 45 Km.